



Press Release

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U.S.-Peru Constructed Community Auditorium Delivered to Community of Huaytará

LIMA, December 14, 2012 – A new 215-square-meter multi-use community auditorium constructed by a joint team of U.S. and Peruvian military engineers was formally delivered today to the district of Huaytará, Huancavelica Region. The construction of the new center was part of a U.S.-Peru Peace Operations Training exercise funded through the U.S. Southern Command's (SOUTHCOM) Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI). The planning of the exercise was part of the New Horizons humanitarian exercises that the United States and Peru jointly undertook in the Ica and Huancavelica Regions from June to August. Attending today's hand-over ceremony were U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Michael J. Fitzpatrick, Huancavelica Regional President Maciste Diaz Abad, Peruvian Vice Minister of Defense Mario Sánchez Debernardi, and Mayor of Huaytará Miguel Nacari Conisilla.

The United States provided \$320,000 to support the construction and furnishing of the auditorium. Valuable logistical and other support was provided by the Government of Peru, the Huancavelica Regional Government, and Huaytará local authorities. The construction team that built the center was made up of Peruvian military personnel led by a joint team of U.S. and Peruvian engineering experts. As a new focal point for community events, it will serve the estimated 13,000 people of the area providing space for meetings and educational and cultural activities. Huaytará was heavily impacted by the 2007 earthquake and is in need of improved infrastructure to help the community to recover.

Other New Horizons 2012 activities that concluded in August were the provision of free medical and dental care to more than 26,000 people in the Regions of Ica and Huancavelica as well as the construction of a medical clinic in Independencia, Ica, and a community center in Tambo de Mora, Ica.

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